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AN ELECTRONIC CAMERA HAVING DUAL MODES FOR COMPOSING  
AND CAPTURING STILL IMAGES

ABSTRACT

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An electronic camera uses a relatively more complex digital image processing technique in a still image mode to produce high quality still images, and a relatively more simple image processing technique in a motion preview mode to produce preview images of acceptable quality prior to initiation of the still image mode. The more complex digital technique is done in software in a general purpose processor section 35, while the more simple digital technique is implemented in a fixed digital circuit in an application specific integrated circuit 27, which also implements timing and control functions. The motion preview mode uses a shorter image readout period than the still mode and further involves mapping image sensor pixels into a fewer number of color display pixels on a color LCD display 10. The mapping further converts color pixel signals from a mosaic array into a different color pattern on the color LCD display 10.

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